

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 10

### HAZARDOUS MATERIALS/WMD INCIDENT SUPPORT PLAN

Purpose – The EPA coordinates with local, state, and federal agencies, tribal authorities and the general public to ensure adequate information and response resources are utilized for prompt and effective spill response. Federal On Scene Coordinators (FOSCs) are permanently located in the EPA Region 10 Idaho Operations Office in Boise, as well as in a field office in Coeur d’Alene, who can provide technical assistance and coordinate Federal resources in response to a spill of oil or hazardous substances. Federal OSC’s from the EPA regional office in Seattle may also coordinate on, or respond to spills in Idaho. EPA FOSC’s can access technical support and cleanup contractors, as well as resources and expertise available through the National Response System. EPA FOSC’s can provide support to the local Incident Commander as needed. EPA FOSC’s may, when the situation warrants, assume a command role in a unified command with state and local responders.

Under the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP), the Comprehensive Emergency Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), and the Oil Pollution Act (OPA), Amendments to the Clean Water Act, the EPA OSC, delegated by the President has overall Federal responsibility to ensure the protection of human health and the environment in the inland zone.

EPA’s involvement in the Federal counter-terrorism effort is based on the Agency’s authorities and responsibilities to respond to a release or threatened release of hazardous substances and pollutants or contaminants that may endanger public health or the environment. EPA has direct authorities to respond to consequences of such a release into the environment under the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP) and the Federal Response Plan (FRP). EPA’s role as one of the key Federal partners in preparing for and responding to terrorism incidents is further supported by Presidential Decision Directives 39, 62, and 63. EPA may potentially be asked to support either the crisis (FBI lead agency) or the Consequence Management (FEMA lead agency) phase of a Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) event.

Response Guidelines - An EPA OSC will generally respond on-scene or may otherwise provide response support when one or more of the following conditions are present:

1. Request from state, local, spiller or other federal agency for EPA assistance.
2. Potential for a significant public health risk.
3. Potential for impact to Federal or tribal trust resources.
4. Spill of oil 200 gallons or greater, which enters, or threatens to enter waters of the United States.
5. Threat to sensitive environmental areas.
6. The responsible spiller is unknown or unable to conduct an adequate cleanup and federal funds will be required for the cleanup.
7. Information indicates the ongoing response is inadequate.
8. Information is sketchy and the spill is suspected to be significant.

While any one of the above conditions can trigger an on-scene response, additional factors and circumstances may enter into the decision as to whether or not an EPA response is warranted.

Notification – To Request EPA Assistance, or when a spill presents one or more of the above conditions, contact an EPA OSC by using the following procedures:

1. Call Idaho State Communications at 1-800-632-8000 or (208) 846-7610 and request to contact the EPA Duty Officer.

